TOLL—LEVY OF—PORAMBOKE CANALS IN AZHIKODE

149. Mr. Ismail Hajee Essa Sait *(Mattancheri):*

താഴെ പറയുന്ന ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്ക് ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവൺമെണ്ട് സദയം മറുപടി പറയുമോ.—

(എ) അഴീക്കോട്ടിലുള്ള പുറമ്പോക്കുതോടുകളിൽക്കൂടി വാഹനങ്ങൾ ഗതാഗതം ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു ടോൾ വല്ലതും വസൂലാക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ;

(ബി) ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽ ആ തോട് ഏതാണെന്നു പറയാമോ;

(സി) ആ തോട് താഴ്ത്തിയിട്ട് എത്ര കാലമായി?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(എ) ഉവ്വ്.

(ബി) ബ്രാഞ്ചാനൽ.

(സി) 4 വർഷം കൊല്ലം.

SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS

1. Rs. 1,400 under 25—Public Health A 2—Rural Sanitation—Supplies and Services

Mr. T. K. Nair *(Minister for Rural Developement)*: Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 1,400 under "25 Public Health—A (2) Rural Sanitation—Supplies and Services—Anti-Malaria operations". An additional allotment of Rs. 1,400 is required for carrying out anti-malarial operations in Chittur and Nelliampathies. A provision of Rs. 2,000 was made in the budget; but the cost of materials have gone up considerably. Therefore, additional provision is necessary. This cannot be postponed in the interests of public health and safety. I request that the House may be pleased to grant this.

Demand put and carried

2. Rs. 10,000 under " 25—Public Health A (2) Rural Sanitation—Supplies and Services—Charges for prevention of Epidemics"

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development)*: Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 10,000 under "25. Public Health—A (2) Rural Sanitation—Supplies and Services—Charges for prevention of Epidemics". A sum of Rs. 5,000 is required for meeting the contribution to the Trichur Municipality for the plague preventive measures done in 1118. Moreover, in view of the plague preventive measures now being carried out in Chittur Taluk and Mattancheri an additional allotment of Rs. 5,000 is necessary. Thus in all an additional allotment of Rs. 10,000 is required under the above head. The expenditure cannot be postponed in the interests of public health and safety. I request that the House may be pleased to grant this.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: May I know, Sir, whether there were any mortal cases of plague?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development)*: I think the House is aware of the epidemics in Trichur. There were several fatal cases—mortalities also.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi)*: I rise to support the motion and in doing so I wish to offer a few remarks. Recently Cholera was raging in our State and also throughout South India. When our Government was in need of requisite serum for the purpose of inoculation there was great difficulty in securing the same from the King Institute, Guindy. Am I right, Sir? Our Government will do well to put an air conditioned chamber or some such devise so that we have always in stock the requisite serum so that the serum so got down may be preserved and used effectively as occasion requires.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development)*: I would answer the Hon'ble Member. The serum manufactured in the Institute can be used only for a certain period. Till that period, perhaps, we may be able to preserve it in a refrigerator. After that period it cannot be used. That is our difficulty. We are doing our best to preserve a certain quantity. After that period the whole thing becomes useless.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam)*: May I know the nature of the arrangements made here to preserve the serum?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer)*: As the Hon'ble Minister said this serum cannot be preserved for a long period.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam)*: We could not follow you, Sir *(Laughter)*

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Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* The various forms of vaccine are usually preserved only for a limited period. The manufacturers indicate on the ampules that this serum could be used only for such and such a period.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Can that period be disclosed?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* It is marked on the bottles that if it is manufactured in February 1944, they say it can be used until January 1945.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* These are technical matters I admit. We just want to know whether these serums can be preserved for a longer period when they are kept in special chambers?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* We preserve these in refrigerators. But to preserve this serum longer than the period indicated is not advisable, because manufacturers have been telling us that this serum should not be used after the expiry of the period.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* Realising the handicaps we are labouring under we would like to know whether the Government contemplate taking any serious measures to get these serum prepared locally, if possible?

Roa Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Local manufacture is not possible.

Demand put and carried.

Legislative Business—Government Bills

The Cochin Port Roads Control Act (Amendment) Bill

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* I beg to move that the Cochin Port Roads Control Act (Amendment) Bill be taken up and finally passed.

Mr. I. Madhava Panicker *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I second it.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* I rise to oppose the third reading of the Bill at this stage and for valid reasons, I hope, that will be accepted by the House. This is a measure intended to levy 4 annas per ton on food grains and an enhanced rate of 7 annas for other articles that are landed and taken from the terminus station in the harbour. Apart from my objection to the whole amount of this money going into the administration of the port instead of it coming to the treasury of our State, this is an impost upon all articles which falls upon the consumer. This is a very serious matter and I don't know whether it will not defeat the purpose they have in view. If you impose these levies upon articles landed at the Harbour, what you are doing, is you are coming into competition with the other landing places where these imposts are non-existing. At Calicut articles will be landed and importers who bring them will save 4 annas a ton and 7 annas a ton and more. Therefore, if in the calculation of the merchant or the importer there is a gain to him, then all articles that come by train into the harbour to use the Port roads and articles coming by steamer which could be landed at Calicut pier, would all go there. Therefore, the volume of trade here is likely to go down while it will increase in the competing ports. This is a great danger to the income of the port itself. Similarly articles coming here, except during the monsoon when facilities are very much more here than at other places, at other times, when these come, and when landing will not be difficult at Trivandrum or Quilon or Alleppy, articles will be landed there because they can save 4 annas or 7 annas a ton. Therefore, whether it is feasible, whether this House can be a party for the dwindling of the trade here is a matter for the consideration of this House. I am not an importer but only a consumer and I will have to pay 4 annas excess on the limited portion of the article that I will be consuming. There is no personal grievance for me whatsoever. We will all pay, contributing 4 annas that the merchant pays. It certainly will not be paid by the merchant. He will put on the article a greater price. The difficulty is the Port road.

Again, Sir, I remember, during one of the Finance Member's speeches in ancient days one Finance Member saying that after the port is completed we will have money in cart-loads. The expression was that there will be so much money here, that we will not know where to keep it. In such exaggerated way, a rosy coloured picture was drawn. But now you say you want even this levy to make the Port roads give a compensation! Why should Port roads alone give you a compensation? You have already spent over it Government money, people's money, public money. It is giving you a return, a very happy return! Why do you want further money to be brought in, I cannot understand, and that at the expense of the consumer of the goods and at the risk of the volume of trade going down by this impost. Therefore, I am constrained to oppose this measure. I only supported you yesterday for other reasons. There is an idea that the port jurisdiction is going away from our hands altogether.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* There can be no such idea.

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